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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stefan Werner
Serial No. : 10/576,987
Filed : April 20, 2006
TC/A.U. :
Confirmation No:
Examiner :

Docket No. : 06-246
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) DE Patent No. 296 06 679
- (2) UK Patent No. 783,881
- (3) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 54030347;
- (4) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 60155064;
- (5) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 60155063;
- (6) US Patent No. 4,561,679;
- (7) DE Patent No. 2 143 736;
- (8) EP Patent No. 0 426 041; and
- (9) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 54135963.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior

art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

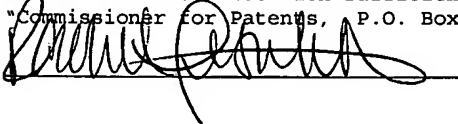
Stefan Werner

By 

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants
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Date: October 9, 2006

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on October 9, 2006.



Substitute for H.R. 1970

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/576.987 |
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| Filing Date | April 20, 2006 |
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| First Named Inventor | Stefan Werner |
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Art Unit

Examiner Name

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|------------------------|--------|
| Attorney Docket Number | 06-246 |
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| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 |
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | DE 296 06 679 | 09-25-1997 | | | |
| | | UK 783,881 | 10-02-1957 | | | |
| | | JP 54-030347 | 03-06-1979 | TakeTomi Ko | | |
| | | JP 60155064 | 08-14-1985 | Narumiya Hiroshi | | |
| | | JP60155063 | 08-14-1985 | Narumiya Hiroshi | | |
| | | DE 2 143 736 | 03-08-1971 | | | |

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
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| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 06-246 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | EP 0 426 041 | 05-08-1991 | Pecht et al. | | |
| | | JP 54135963 | 10-22-1979 | Taketomi Ko | | |
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